

To: RCRC Board of Directors

From: Paul A. Smith, Senior Vice President Governmental Affairs

Date: March 13, 2020

Re: RCRC Board Meeting Highlights (March 11, 2020)

The March RCRC Board of Directors meeting took place at the RCRC Board Room in Sacramento on Wednesday, March 11, 2020. The RCRC Board of Directors reviewed and discussed many issues, and following are highlights:

President's Report

Greg Norton, President and CEO, introduced Ms. Dorothy Poole, External Affairs Coordinator, to the RCRC Board of Directors. Ms. Poole will be responsible for planning RCRC events, including the RCRC Annual Installation of Officers and Rural Leadership Awards Receptions, the County of the Chair meetings, and the RCRC Annual Meetings.

Administrative Matters

RCRC Revised Pay Rate Schedule – APPROVED

Mr. Norton presented the RCRC revised pay rate schedule. The most recent pay rate schedule was approved by the RCRC Executive Committee and the RCRC Board of Directors in conjunction with the approval of the 2020 annual budget. The RCRC Board of Directors adopted the RCRC revised pay rate schedule.

The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>. The RCRC revised pay rate schedule can be accessed here.

April 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Update

RCRC Chair Daron McDaniel (Merced) and Paul A. Smith, Senior Vice President Governmental Affairs, provided an update on the April 2020 RCRC Board of Directors meeting. As is tradition, the RCRC Board of Directors holds one Board Meeting each year in the county of the RCRC Chair. This year, Merced County will serve as host. RCRC will host a dinner on Tuesday night, April 21st, for Board Members that will be arriving early. On Wednesday, April 22nd, the group will partake in several economic development-focused tours. The RCRC Board of Directors meeting will be held on Thursday morning, April 23rd.

The registration form can be accessed <u>here</u>. Completed registration forms can be sent to Ms. Poole at <u>dpoole@rcrcnet.org</u>.

Guest Speaker

Tyson Eckerle, Deputy Director, GO-Biz

Mr. Eckerle provided an overview of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development's electric vehicle charging station permit streamlining efforts. Mr. Eckerle's presentation can be accessed here.

Governmental Affairs

Consideration of two 2020 RCRC Sponsored Legislation – APPROVED

Paul A. Smith and John Kennedy, Legislative Advocate, provided the RCRC Board of Directors with details on 2020 Legislative Session proposals for potential RCRC sponsorship/co-sponsorship. The RCRC Board of Directors approved the sponsorship/co-sponsorship of two 2020 Legislative Session proposals pertaining to local flexibility for organic waste management and mitigating PSPS impacts on elections.

The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>. The sample template letter for AB 2612 can be accessed <u>here</u>.

<u>Proposals Impacting the Homeowners Insurance Market - Assembly Bill 2167 (Daly) and Assembly Bill 2367 (Gonzalez) – APPROVED</u>

Staci Heaton, Senior Regulatory Affairs Advocate, provided an overview of Assembly Bill 2167 (Daly) and Assembly Bill 2367 (Gonzalez). RCRC staff recommended the RCRC Board of Directors have the Homeowner's Insurance Ad Hoc Committee consider and advise RCRC regarding a position on AB 2167 and AB 2367. The RCRC Board of Directors approved RCRC staff recommendation.

The memo regarding AB 2167 can be accessed <u>here</u>. A copy of AB 2167 can be accessed <u>here</u>.

The memo regarding AB 2367 can be accessed <u>here</u>. A copy of AB 2367 can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Forest Management and Wildfire Update

Ms. Heaton provided an update on current efforts in the Legislature and various state and federal agencies to address California's persistent catastrophic wildfire events. Topics addressed included homeowners insurance availability and affordability, the Governor's Forest Management Task Force, and USDA Forest Service's 10-Year Trail Shared Stewardship Challenge.

The memo can be accessed here.

Governor's Homelessness Budget Proposal Update

Tracy Rhine, Legislative Advocate, provided an overview of recent actions of the Governor and the Legislature to address the homelessness crisis, including the creation of a new funding program outlined in the Governor's 2020-21 proposed Budget as well as RCRC's proposal for rural access to housing and services.

The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>. RCRC's proposal can be accessed <u>here</u>.

NACo Legislative Conference and Federal Advocacy Update

RCRC Chair Daron McDaniel (Merced), RCRC First Vice Chair Stacy Corless (Mono), and RCRC Immediate Past Chair Matt Kingsley (Inyo) joined RCRC Board Members and Western Interstate Region Delegates Kevin Cann (Mariposa) and Lee Adams (Sierra) and RCRC governmental affairs staff for the National Association of Counties' (NACo) 2020 Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. RCRC's senior leadership heard from a number of political analysts on the upcoming election contests that are occurring throughout the nation. The RCRC delegation also held meetings with key personnel and staff, including U.S. Forest Service Chief Vicki Christiansen.

The memo can be accessed here.

Water and Natural Resources Committee

Water Issues Update

Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Senior Legislative Advocate, provided an update on a number of issues involving California water policy. At the state level, Ms. Warmerdam provided an update on the Water Resiliency Initiative Portfolio, the Voluntary Agreements, the General Obligation Bonds to Fund Resource Programs, and the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund. At the federal level, the Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act, and the SAVE Water Resources Act.

The memo can be accessed here.

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Update

Ms. Warmerdam provided an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and its implementation in various regions throughout the state.

The memo can be accessed here.

Regulatory Committee

California Public Utilities Commission Update

Ms. Heaton, Mr. Kennedy, and Leigh Kammerich, Regulatory Affairs Coordinator, provided a summary of the progress of several California Public Utilities Commission proceedings impacting how utilities undertake wildfire hazard mitigation and deenergization of power lines to prevent high-severity wildfires, as well the Self-Generation Incentive Program proceeding, Emergency Disaster Relief Program, and the Microgrids and Resiliency Proceeding.

The memo can be accessed here.

Fair Allocation Rulemaking - Counties Encouraged to Contact CDFA

Ms. Warmerdam and Ms. Kammerich provided an overview of the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) rulemaking that would distribute a share of the state's portion of sales and use tax revenues from transactions made at fairgrounds to financially assist with the operations and maintenance of fairgrounds.

The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>. RCRC's letter to CDFA can be accessed <u>here</u>. The sample template letter that counties can send which urges CDFA to disburse monies can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority Update

Ms. Heaton provided a summary of the Rural Counties' Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority's recent activities, including updates on various legislative and regulatory activities impacting RCRC member county solid waste departments.

The memo can be accessed here.

Federal National Environmental Policy Act Rulemaking

Ms. Heaton provided an overview of the Council on Environmental Quality's (Council) process of updating the regulations implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act as well as RCRC's involvement and advocacy efforts.

The memo can be accessed here. RCRC's letter to the Council can be accessed here.

Legislative Committee

State Legislation

RCRC staff provided a brief overview on the following legislation: Assembly Bill 2323 (Friedman), Assembly Bill 2832 (C. Garcia), Senate Bill 917 (Wiener), and Senate Bill 1363 (Allen).

Please refer to the Board Packet and Supplemental Packet for further details related to the items above, as well as all items covered during the March 2020 RCRC Board of Directors meeting. The March 2020 Board Packet can be accessed <a href="https://example.com/here/4020/backet-can-here/4020/backet-can